



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
REGION 4
ATLANTA FEDERAL CENTER
61 FORSYTH STREET
ATLANTA, GEORGIA 30303-8960

APR 20 2018

Mr. Boyd Corbin
Email: Boydmania@aol.com
Phone: (321) 278-1718

Dear Mr. Corbin:

Thank you for the information you recently provided to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Region 4 office about your concerns with the concentrations of chloroform and other disinfection byproducts (DBPs) in the drinking water served by the City of Fort Lauderdale Public Water System (PWS) to its customers and consecutive wholesale purchasing PWSs in Florida. The Region is in receipt of the information that you provided through the Region 4 EPA website and an email sent to Region 4 staff on March 31, 2018, as well as EPA's National Safe Drinking Water Hotline on April 2, 2018.

We understand that you are concerned that elevated DBP concentrations may occur in drinking water served by the City of Fort Lauderdale during "free chlorine burns." These are operational periods when the PWS temporarily changes the secondary disinfectant from chloramine to free chlorine. The EPA understands your concern that the PWS may not adequately monitor for the DBPs during these free chlorination periods.

You stated concerns with the level of chloroform in a water sample. Chloroform is one of the four trihalomethanes that comprise the maximum contaminant level (MCL) of Total Trihalomethanes as stated in both the Stage 1 and Stage 2 Disinfectants and Disinfection Byproducts Rules (D/DBPR) at 40 CFR 141.64(b) and defined in 40 CFR 141.2. Thus, chloroform as well as three other trihalomethanes are subject to regulatory monitoring required in those rules.

The State of Florida and its delegated drinking water agencies, including the Florida Department of Health – Broward County (FDOH-Broward), have primary enforcement responsibility for the Stage 1 and Stage 2 D/DBP Rules (40 CFR Part 141, Subparts L and V.)

The Stage 1 D/DBP Rule requires systems to take all samples for Total Trihalomethanes (TTHMs) and Haloacetic Acids (HAA5s) during normal operating conditions (40 CFR 141.132(a)). A system is operating under normal conditions unless the system consults with the state to determine that an emergency is impacting the system (EPA Implementation for the Stage 1 Disinfectants/Disinfection Byproduct Rule, June 2001, p. IV-23). The Stage 2 D/DBP Rule requires systems under routine monitoring to sample for TTHM/HAA5 every 90 days at each monitoring location in their Subpart V monitoring plan (40 CFR 141.621(a)(2) Footnote 2). Additionally, one of these quarterly samples must be collected during the month of highest DBP concentrations (40 CFR 141.621(a)(2) Footnote 1).

Under the Safe Drinking Water Act and its implementing regulations the EPA is responsible for exercising oversight of Florida's implementation of these regulations. In that oversight role, staff in the Region 4 Drinking Water Section contacted drinking water program managers at the Florida Department of Environmental Protection (FDEP) for information on how this rule is being implemented by FDEP, FDOH-Broward and the City of Fort Lauderdale PWS. We have provided FDEP with EPA guidance on compliance monitoring requirements for these two regulations. We will continue to work with FDEP and FDOH's county drinking water programs to ensure that Florida's oversight of the City of Fort Lauderdale PWS and its wholesale purchasers results in implementation of monitoring requirements consistent with the Stage 1 and 2 D/DBP Rules.

Should you desire additional detailed information on how FDEP and FDOH-Broward are addressing chlorine burns and DBP monitoring for the City of Fort Lauderdale PWS and the City of Wilton Manors PWS, we recommend that you contact Ms. Joni Synatschk, Program Administrator, Drinking Water and Aquifer Protection Program, 2600 Blair Stone Rd., MS 3520, Tallahassee, Florida 32399-2400; or 850-245-8624.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'M. Walker', with a long, sweeping horizontal line extending to the right.

Mary S. Walker
Director
Water Protection Division

cc: Ms. Joni Synatschk
Program Administrator
FDEP Drinking Water and Aquifer Protection Program

Mr. Jamie Shakar
Environmental Administrator
FDEP Source and Drinking Water Program